

The Chronicle and Directory for 1871.

THIS work, now in the NINTH year of its existence, will be published as early as practicable after the close of the current year.

It will be compiled and printed at the Daily Press Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains will be spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual, rapid and voluminous information, the value of the "Chronicle and Directory for 1871" will be further augmented by the addition of a Chromo-lithograph plate of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS in use at the Peak; also of the various HOUSE FLAGS; a MAP OF HONGKONG; a MAP OF JAPAN; and a CHART OF THE COAST; besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work a valuable and all Public, Mercantile and General Office.

The Publisher requests that those persons who have not yet returned the printed forms which have been sent to them to fill up, will be good enough to do so without delay. Any persons who have recently arrived, and to whom printed forms have not been sent, are respectfully requested to forward their names and addresses as early as possible for insertion.

Daily Press Office, Nov. 12th, 1870.

BIRTH.
On the 1st inst., at No. 7, Arbutnot Road, Hongkong, the wife of Dr. V. D. COLLIER, of a Son.

The Address of the Daily Press here this office is situated on Thursday morning at 10:30 and the last news appears till the office at 10:40.

The Daily Press
HONGKONG, DECEMBER 2ND, 1870.

This affair at Pak Hoi, to which attention has recently been called, is suggestive of a question of some interest with regard to the employment of Europeans as captains and officers of gunboats by the Chinese Authorities. Although there can be no harm in foreigners being employed by the Chinese in gunboats which are used only for what may be considered as police or revenue purposes, their employment in cases where there is a distinct disagreement between the people and the officials, is to be objected to upon very serious grounds. By such a plan, it must be obvious that foreigners are likely to become identified in the Chinese mind with a number of petty disputes between people and mandarins, regarding the merits of which they really know nothing, and in which they would not take any part if the question were deliberately and formally propounded to them. On account of the peculiar tendency of the Chinese to assume an attitude of hostility towards their authorities upon what, as far as foreigners are concerned, appears very slight provocation, matters which would be in other places of little moment, become of serious importance in this country. The officials are frequently careless of the wishes of the people in the imposition of taxes, and on the other hand, the masses, though peculiarly long suffering up to a certain point, are very prone to resist on just what they deem to be grossly unjust, by openly rebelling against the authorities. It is, for example, with regard to the matter which has immediately suggested these remarks, that the merchants and Pak Hoi spokesmen as far as \$10,000 in paying the taxes which it was designed to lay upon the trade, and that it was this which mainly roused the Canton officials to take the subject up energetically. It is argued, the Viceroy, they can afford to pay \$10,000 to oppose the tax, they can be made to pay large sums supporting their opposition can be overcome, and accordingly a strong expedition was organized to bring them into subjection, the object which was at first only to impose the taxes thus becoming transformed into one of a distinctly hostile nature—being in short, nothing more or less than that of making a reprisal on account of the opposition manifested. In such an affair as this it is manifestly undesirable that foreigners should be mixed up. The nature of the matter is beyond question that of a civil war on a small scale; and, as in well known, serious rebellions have repeatedly resulted in China from beginnings such as these. If foreigners aid in such proceedings they actually incur all the odium which the officials evoke on the part of the people by extortionate and oppressive acts, and for ought they know to the contrary, may be made the instruments of inflicting grievous wrong upon men who are using the only means in their power to prevent themselves from being utterly crushed by unscrupulous squeezing on the part of their officials. No doubt it is a very undesirable thing that China should be so badly governed that open hostilities repeatedly take place about mere fiscal matters. But unfortunately such is the fact, and we cannot justifiably conclude that in all these cases the Mandarins are right, and the masses wrong, and inasmuch as we must be as a rule in complete ignorance as to the merits of any given dispute, it is only reasonable that we should give as much as possible being in any way connected with them.

There are unfortunately some difficulties in the way of taking action in this matter, because, though the lives of one nation may be sufficient to prevent foreigners entering into any of the kind of things which may permit it. We believe, however, that the laws of all the great nations are such as could be made to prevent any of their subjects taking part in such matters, provided they could be shown to be really of the nature of active hostilities between mandarin and people. This is unfortunately a point which it is somewhat difficult to establish, but probably if the truth with regard to such action in China were fully understood, persons would be found to meet the case. As regards British subjects, there seems to be every good reason to believe that the Order in Council of 1865, would entirely meet the case. By that order, taking part in any hostilities existing in China against the established authorities, either on one side or the other, is distinctly prohibited, unless the person doing

so has received a license from his Government. A similar rule applied by the other foreign nations in China would no doubt be sufficient to put an end to the evil complained of, but the trouble of course is to bring about the necessary combined action for this purpose. It would, however, seem scarcely open to question that those nations who have the power to restrain their nationals from mixing up in internal hostilities in China, should in the interests of foreign relations and the economy generally, use their endeavors to prevent this being done, as is often the case, under the color of protecting revenue, and suppressing piracy.

The performance of the San Francisco Minstrels last night was very fine, several new songs which were well appreciated being introduced. Little Minnie's songs were very well given, and it is understood that the next performance will be for her benefit.

The French National and General, having completed repairs rendered necessary by an accident, and by which she was detained in this port for several days, is now ready to start on her voyage to Europe, and will leave on Monday only, permitted under ordinary circumstances by the Queen's proclamation of Neutrality, to be her departure this day at 6.30 a.m.

THE LICENSING MEETING OF JUSTICES.

Yesterday, being the first Thursday of the month, the Justices met for the purpose of the annual licensing of public houses and taverns, and the meeting was attended by the following gentlemen: C. May, Esq., J. P., Senior Police Magistrate, Chairman; and Mr. A. Alexander, James Barwick, and F. W. Mitchell, Esq., Justices of the Peace.

The meeting was held in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, and was presided over by Mr. C. May, Esq.

December 1st, 1870.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

Before C. May, Esq.

December 1st, 1870.

PREACH OF PORTAL ORDINANCE.

His Excellency the Governor, Mr. James Graham, Master of the British steamship "Aurora," chartered him with respect to the Ordinance No. 2 of 1868, by delaying the delivery at the General Post Office in the Colony of Victoria, of a certain mail from Singapore, which was due to arrive on the 22nd inst. at 1.10 p.m.

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Kwok Kiu Shu and Chiu Kiu Chiu, both of whom were arrested on the 22nd inst. at 1.10 p.m., were charged with the same offence as the mail from Singapore, which was due to arrive on the 22nd inst. at 1.10 p.m., was delayed by the delay in the delivery of the mail from Singapore, which was due to arrive on the 22nd inst. at 1.10 p.m.

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